

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority to issue this document is vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and the Act of August 15, 1914 (38 Stat. 583, 25 U.S.C. 385). The Secretary has delegated this authority to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs pursuant to part 209 Departmental Manual, Chapter 8.1A and Memorandum dated January 25, 1994, from Chief of Staff, Department of the Interior, to Assistant Secretaries, and Heads of Bureaus and Offices.

This notice is given in accordance with § 171.1(e) of part 171, Subchapter H, Chapter 1, of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which provides for the fixing and announcing the rates for annual operation and maintenance assessments and related information for BIA operated and owned irrigation projects.

The purpose of this notice is to announce an adjustment in the Michaud Unit, Fort Hall Irrigation Project, assessment rates proportionate with actual operation and maintenance costs. The change in the assessment rate is based on the electrical energy cost increase imposed by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). In September 1996 the BOR notified us they are increasing the electrical energy charge for its users. The rate was set at 12.70 mills per kilowatt hour, an increase of 19.5%. The increased electrical energy cost was absorbed by the project during the 1997 irrigation season.

The assessment rates are based on an estimate of the cost of normal operation and maintenance of the irrigation project. Normal operation and maintenance means the expenses we incur to provide direct support or benefit to the project's activities for administration, operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation. We must include at least:

(a) Personnel salary and benefits for the project engineer/manager and our employees under his/her management control;

(b) Materials and supplies;

(c) Major and minor vehicle and equipment repairs;

(d) Equipment, including transportation, fuel, oil, grease, lease and replacement;

(e) Capitalization expenses;

(f) Acquisition expenses, and

(g) Other expenses we determine necessary to properly perform the activities and functions characteristic of an irrigation project.

Payments

The irrigation operation and maintenance assessments become due based on locally established payment

requirements. No water shall be delivered to any of these lands until all irrigation charges have been paid.

Interest and Penalty Fees

Interest, penalty, and administrative fees will be assessed, where required by law, on all delinquent operation and maintenance assessment charges as prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 4, part 102, Federal Claims Collection Standards; and 42 BIAM Supplement 3, part 3.8 Debt Collection Procedures. Beginning 30-days after the due date interest will be assessed at the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury. An administrative fee of \$12.50 will be assessed each time an effort is made to collect a delinquent debt; a penalty charge of 6 percent per year will be charged on delinquent debts over 90-days old and will accrue from the date the debt became delinquent. After 180-days, a delinquent debt will be forwarded to the United States Treasury for further action in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-134).

Dated: December 3, 1997.

Kevin Gover,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-32397 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Alaska

[AK-962-1410-00-P; AA-9314]

Notice for Publication; Alaska Native Claims Selection

In accordance with Departmental regulation 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that a decision to issue conveyance under the provisions of Section 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613(h)(1), will be issued to Calista Corporation for approximately 12.9 acres. The lands involved are in the vicinity of Nunivak Island, Alaska.

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 4 S., R. 97 W.,
Sec. 6.

T. 4 S., R. 98 W.,
Sec. 1.

A notice of the decision will be published once a week, for four (4) consecutive weeks, in the *Anchorage Daily News*. Copies of the decision may be obtained by contacting the Alaska State Office of the Bureau of Land

Management, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 (907) 271-5960).

Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision, an agency of the Federal government or regional corporation, shall have until January 12, 1998 to file an appeal. However, parties receiving service by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal. Appeals must be filed in the Bureau of Land Management at the address identified above, where the requirements for filing an appeal may be obtained. Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.

Patricia A. Baker,

Land Law Examiner, ANCSA Team, Branch of 962 Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 97-32402 Filed 12-10-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-930-1430-01; COC-12610]

Public Land Order No. 7302; Withdrawal of Public Lands for Addition to the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge; Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order withdraws from surface entry and mining 1,720 acres of public lands and transfers administrative jurisdiction to the Fish and Wildlife Service for a 50-year period. This action will allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to administer the lands as a part of the Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge. The lands have been and remain open to mineral leasing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 11, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doris E. Chelius, BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7076, 303-239-3706.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public lands are hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)),